

Commission on disabilities Notes: May 2014

Present – Steve, Danny, Mady, Leslie, Lisa, Cindy

Order 9:30

Citizen's Concerns – none

Minutes from April

Motion made and approved to get the minutes corrections done and approved today. Motion Cindy 2nd Mady Vote 4 to 1 – Danny dissent

Motion to approve minutes motion Danny, 2nd Steve, Approved by all

Reports and Updates

Franny is our new BOS Liaison

Variance for Upper Schools still does not have a variance approval from for the Snack Bar at the lower field. They have not

When the Acton Funeral Home changes ownership they must come into full compliance or file a variance.

Battina sent the grievance procedure for the OSPR signed by Steve (newly approved by BOS)

Steve decided not to attend CAM

Jim Snyder Grant – Chart in OSPR – going forward with according to comments made at the meeting

No response from School district to Lisa

RCC meeting 4/17 – quit summary by Cindy

Municipal Quarterly – Comes with taxes – not an option – only town departments can make submissions to the article.

Recruitment update – Lisa contacted VCC, e-mailed Sharon Mercurio – Senior Center. Leslie did an add

Discussion of Compliant from 457 Great Road

Lisa led the discussion – received the compliant and thought it was necessary for Mady and Lisa to respond. We talked to them without open meeting law. Then did e-mail that continued to go against Open meeting Law. Compliant – which a member of the COD named Danny had called the AAB and insisted that this variance be done at a hearing. Mady said that she sent only one e-mail. Danny said that he never said this to Tom Hopkins. When Tom was asked and said that it never happened. Danny was upset that he wasn't contacted immediately about this compliant. He suggested that we come up with a policy for the future – perhaps at the retreat. Mady wasn't sure what was needed to know what we should do now

2 complaints – one that the COD had not responded properly in their comments to the AAB – and second – that Danny had spoken expatriate to the AAB.

There should be a response to this complaint that should be and sent to Steve L. to do with whatever he wants. Danny suggested that we put the topic on the agenda for next month to go over a draft of the letter. Letter to be drafted by Lisa and Mady. Motion by Danny that Lisa and Mady write a draft letter 2nd by Lisa voted unanimously.

Feedback was heard from several members about their feelings about the complaintants.

Brochure

New draft was shown and discussed. Brochure is looking very good. Lisa said we have to check with Staples about how much it would be to print the brochure. Lisa talked about guardian's need to sign release for pictures. Discussion about the pictures. Should we include a picture that is obviously a female? Lisa motion that we accept brochure with correction 2nd Mady – unanimous

Motion to accept add as written by Lisa 2nd Mady 4 yeah 1 neigh

Postponed 29 Knox Trail to June – unless the owner comes at 12:10.

June Meeting Agenda

Recruitment

Approve letter about complaint

Squash Club – 29 Knox Trail

Nursing Service

Retreat Planning

**6 hours – Wed., July 9th – 9 – 3:00 Lunch – Donation - Common House – 25
Half Moon Hill**

**General disability discussion – Lisa and Leslie – Independent living, what is a
disability, philosophy – most important**

Team Building

Web site first thing we would knock off

Policies – complaints 3 to knock off

ADA anniversary

Go Over New Member Book

Housing – accessible public housing

Recruitment – interview questions and such

To: Steve Ledoux

From: the Acton Commission on Disabilities

RE: complaint from owners of 475 Great Road

At the May meeting of the Commission, May 20, 2014, The Commission addressed the two parts of the complaint filed by applicants for a building variance to the above address

The charge that we had not submitted a full set of recommendations to the AAB. On their application..was cleared up April 15, 2014, when Denison Schweppe attended our meeting and was satisfied when we pointed out that there had actually been a vote NOT to include a n opinion for or against the idea of the AAB's holding a full hearing on the variance application as was duly noted in the minutes from April 4. (See docushare)

The sccond charge wastat COD member, Danny factor then spoke , without COD authority to Tom Hopkins, commissioner of the AAB, to influence their decision and sdbocate for a full hearing. Lisa franklin spoke with Commissioner Hopkins about the claim that the AAB office itself was the source of such information Me. Hopkins strongly denied that such an event had ever occurred and commented that in the many years he had worked with Danny, Mr. Factor's behavior regarding communications about open cases heard by the Board has always been above reproach

This commission agreed that it believed the charges to be unfounded, and felt that aside from communicating their findings to the Acton Town Manager, and developing a policy of how to address such complaints in the future, no further action was necessary in this matter.
